

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5549

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 8393

EXDIS

FROM AMBASSADOR TO NEA

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, US

SUBJECT: SPECIAL AFGHAN PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY -- NAIM VISIT

REF: KABUL 6877

1. THE LENGTH OF TIME IT IS TAKING THE DEPARTMENT TO RESPOND TO MY RECOMMENDATION THAT PRESIDENT DAOUD'S BROTHER, THE UNOFFICIAL NUMBER TWO MAN IN HIS REGIME, BE INVITED TO VISIT WASHINGTON AS THE SECRETARY'S GUEST, LEADS ME TO CONCLUDE THAT EITHER THE SUBSTANTIVE OR FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES ARE LARGER THAN WE HAVE SUSPECTED AT THIS DISTANCE.

2. ON THE SUBSTANTIVE SIDE, I WOULD THINK THE ONLY DIFFICULTY MIGHT BE EXPLAINING THE VISIT TO THE PAKISTANIS. BUT THIS SHOULD NOT IN FACE BE DIFFICULT BECAUSE ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL REASONS WE WANT TO TALK TO NAIM IN WASHINGTON IS TO ENCOURAGE AFGHAN MODERATION IN THE PUSHTUNISTAN DISPUTE. WE WOULD ALSO BE ENCOURAGEING THE STRENGTHENING OF HSF GHAN NON-ALIGNMENT, WHICH MEANS GREATER INDEPENDENCE FROM THE SOVIET UNION, SURELY ALSO A PAKISTANI INTEREST.

3. ASIDE FROM THOSE ARGUMENTS, I REMAIN CONVINCED THAT IT IS STRONGLY IN OUR INTEREST TO INVITE NAIM. TO REITERATE, IT HAS BEEN ALMOST NINE YEARS SINCE AN AFGHAN  
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OF HIS RANK HAS BEEN RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON. DAOUD AND



NAIM BETWEEN THEM HAVE VISITED EVERY OTHER COUNTRY OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN SINCE THEY RETURNED TO POWER IN JULY, 1973. THEY HAVE BEEN TROUBLED -- DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ABDULLAH, THEIR TRUSTED CHIEF OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, IS MY SOURCE FOR THIS STATEMENT -- BY OUR PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY NOT HAVING RECEIVED ANY RANKING AFGHAN.

4. ON THE FINANCIAL SIDE, IF IT WOULD ASSIST, I WOULD AGREE TO HAVING INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM (IVP) FUNDS PAY FOR NAIM'S VISIT. I WOULD BE WILLING TO RELEASE ONE OF OUR SEVEN SG 1976 IV GRANTS FOR THIS PURPOSE. THIS WOULD PROVIDE ABOUT \$3,500 WHICH SHOULD SUFFICE. I ASSUME THIS WOULD NOT AFFECT THE NUMBER OF IV GRANTS FOR AFGHANISTAN FOR FY 1977. I AM MERELY SAYING THAT NAIM'S VISIT RANKS HIGHER IN PRIORITY THAN ANY IV'S IN FY 1976 IF IT IS NECESSARY TO USE IV FUNDS FOR HIS VISIT.

5. HOWEVER, BEFORE WE JOINTLY DECIDE ON SUCH A REPROGRAMMING, I WANT TO BE SURE THAT THE ELEMENTS OF THE TRIP AS OUTLINED IN REFTEL ARE AGREED UPON BETWEEN OURSELVES. SPECIFICALLY, A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD IS VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE VISIT.

6. ALSO, REGARDLESS OF THE SOURCE OF THE FUNDING, I DO NOT WISH NAIM TO BE THOUGHT OF OR LISTED SUBSEQUENTLY IN ANY PUBLISHED DOCUMENT AS AN "IV PROGRAM PARTICIPANT." HE IS ONCE AGAIN TO REPEAT, THE NUMBER TWO MAN IN A PROUD AND SENSITIVE REGIME.

7. ADVIS.  
ELIOT

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